

Remarks

Claims 15-20 and 24-27 were pending in the application, claims 1-14 and 21-23 having been previously cancelled. Claims 15-19 were allowed, claims 20 and 24-26 were rejected and claim 27 was objected to as being dependent on rejected claim 20 but would be allowed if amended to include the subject matter of claim 20. The specification was also objected to because there is no antecedent basis for the monomer set forth in Claims 19 and 27, namely (ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate. This is a typographical error and has been corrected. Even though the compound includes "poly" it acts as a monomer in the claimed method. The specification at paragraph 0012, line 14 on page 3 and paragraph 0069, line 3 on page 20 of the specification clearly discloses that a conjugate containing poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate was prepared. Claim 19 has been amended to specify that the monomer used to form that conjugate is poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate. The Specification, at paragraph 0069, line 2 has been amended to specify that an alternative monomer is poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate to agree with the language in the next sentence in the same paragraph. A typographical error in line 5 of paragraph 0069 has also been corrected.

Claim 26 has been canceled without prejudice to pursue same in a Divisional or Continuation-In-Part application. Claim 20 has been amended to specify the monomer is (ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate and claim 27 was cancelled.

As claims 15-19 were previously indicated as allowed and claim 27, dependent on claim 20, was found to be allowable it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 20 and claims 24 and 25 dependent thereon are likewise allowable. Claims 15-20, 24 and 25 currently pending are not shown by any of the cited references or obvious based on a combination of those references and are all therefore patentable. It is respectfully requested that the final rejection be withdrawn and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required to Deposit
Account 11-1580.

Respectfully submitted,

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